Amendments To Claims

1-64. (Cancelled).

65-70. (Withdrawn).

71. (New) A method for determining whether an originator of an access to a computer-based system is a human being or a computer-based program imitating a human being, comprising:

generating a computer-based message defining a human test which when rendered by another computer-based system presents a stimulus perceptible by one or more human senses including a question pertaining to the stimulus;

transmitting the computer-based message to the originator and receiving a computer-based message containing an answer to the question from the originator and determining the originator is the computer-based program if a time spent by the originator answering the question is too fast for a human.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising comparing the answer to a correct answer such that the question is selected to test human knowledge regarding a capability of an object depicted by the stimulus.

73. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store holding a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the stimulus.

75. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising adapting

the stimulus to a human disability.

76. (New) A method for determining whether an originator of an access to a computer-based system is a human being or a computer-based program imitating a human being, comprising:

generating a computer-based message defining a human test which when rendered by another computer-based system presents a stimulus perceptible by one or more human senses such that the stimulus depicts an object and a question pertaining to the object wherein the question is selected to test human knowledge regarding a capability of the object;

transmitting the computer-based message to the originator and receiving a computer-based message containing an answer to the question from the originator and determining whether the answer is correct.

77. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining whether a time spent by the originator answering the question is too fast for a human.

78. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the object is a living thing.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing visually.

80. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing using sound.

81. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the object is an inanimate object.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object visually.

83. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object using sound.

84. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising varying one or more visual characteristics of the object.

85. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a human disability.

86. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the question is selected to exercise a human capability to parse spoken speech.

87. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions.

88. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more characteristics of the stimulus.